JEWISH OBSERVER

MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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KOL, SERLIN-OR BEIGIN: WHO ARE THE NEW LIBERALS?

-PAGE 4

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COMMENT -

REFUGEE INITIATIVE

One naturally approaches the claims of yet another "Government in Exile" with some caution. Yet there are aspects of the claim of the "Provisional Palestine Arab Free Government in Exile" which deserve more than cursory attention from the United Nations to whom it has been addressed. It is serious, not propagandist, in tone. It is basically reasonable in its political approach, and it provides a basis for negotiation with the United Nations—and with Israel—which the signatories of the memorandum propose. Nor is it much of a secret that the main thesis for a Palestinian Arab state which would include the west bank of the Jordan, the Gaza Strip and perhaps parts of the present Jordan Kingdom on the east bank of the river, is one towards which Mr. Hammarskjold has not been unsympathetic, and to which the Israelis might also subscribe.

It would take the refugees away from the conflicting politics of the Arab states and give them a home which might be genuinely neutralised. It is not surprising that the Egyptian Government, which appears to have had some inkling of this move, should have been attacking it even before it happened. For it makes nonsense of their claim that there is no solution except repatriation to the refugee question. It leaves them-and the Mufti -rather out on a limb. But the question is, what happens next? Much depends on King Hussein's reaction. Statesmanship on his part could transform the refugee situation overnight. And what will the U.N. Director of UNRWA say now? He has already committed himself (see page 9) to what looks like a position opposed to that taken by the "Exile Government,"

THE LIBERAL STAMPEDE

The Israelis seem to have improved on Gilbert and Sullivan. In *Iolanthe*, Gilbert concluded that:

I often think it's comical
How nature always does contrive
That every boy and every gal,
That's born into this world alive,
Is either a little Liberal,
Or else a little Conservative.

But, in Israel, judging from the reports of our correspondents, the Liberals are born fully matured and ready for office. All that they seem to need is a leader, and they are waiting anxiously for Dr. Nahum Goldmann's declaration on this subject. But reading about the hasty improvisations for this new Liberal Front, one wonders where the supporters will come from? The intellectuals are cautious. Few have declared themselves for the new group. Yadin and Talmon have said that they are not joining. Nor is there any marked sign of a break-away from Mapai, about which Mr. Kol has been speaking with more mystery than clarity.

One fact which seems to have been rather overlooked by the sponsors of the new Liberal Front is that political parties are not made by men of goodwill alone any more than by new born-liberalbabies. They exist to represent certain interests, economic, class, political and intellectual. Mapai broadly represents moderate labour, together with professional and other interests which want to pursue a policy slightly to the left of centre. Any front which wants to rally an opposition to this Mapai position can do so only from either the extreme left or from the right. Already, the indications are that, quite irrespective of the desire of the sponsors, the new Liberal Front is becoming the concentration of every opposition group to Mapai, from the moderate centre to the extreme right. This may be desirable or even inevitable—but it is not necessarily liberal.

A NEW KIND OF ZIONISM

Mr. Ben-Gurion's proposal that the World Zionist Organisation should decide to turn itself into the nucleus of one over-all Jewish organisation representing all the Jews outside Israel, sounds attractive. Unfortunately, however, whatever its long-term possibilities, it does not offer much hope under the conditions of today. Quite apart from all the vested interests in the Jewish world which would resist such a merger, or agree to it only at a price which would make it valueless, the main objection to the proposal is that it diverts attention away from the urgent and immediately needed reforms in the World Zionist Organisation. The General Council meets in Jerusalem next month, and it will again have to tackle the unfinished business of the last Congress. If it fails to carry through some of the reforms in organisation, especially in the immigration, education and information departments which are urgently overdue, it will bring grist to Mr. Ben-Gurion's mill and contribute to its own undoing.

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Cover: Liberal Kol (extreme right) and Serlin (extreme left) in the Knesset. Photo Camera Press

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ISRAEL

CHOICE BEFORE THE NEW LIBERALS

KOL, SERLIN-OR POSSIBLY BEIGIN

from our own correspondents

Jerusalem and Tel Aviv:

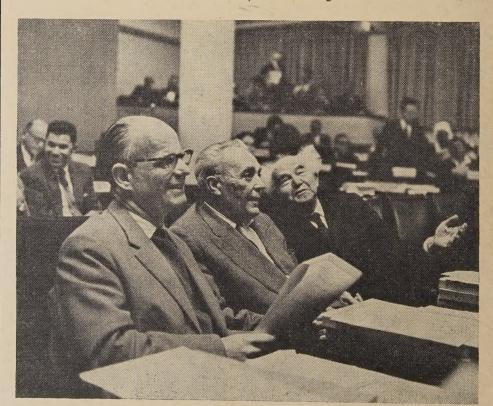
By one of those odd quirks of political life which have passed us before we realise it, it is the Progressive Party, or at least a hard core of its leadership, which is bent upon committing the country to a general election that few people really want and which no one can afford. Yet, only a few short days ago, it was these very same Progressive leaders who were condemning Mapai for forcing an election upon the country.

The issue of elections has split the Progressives into two camps. There is the apparently majority group, headed by Moshe Kol, which is bent upon the establishment of a Liberal Front with the General Zionists and a unified appeal to the electorate as soon as possible so as to reap whatever political benefits are available.

Then there is the group headed by Izhar Harari, with the background support of Dr. Rosen, which is ready to enter into a new coalition with Mapai on condition that the government (to be headed by Eshkol, not Ben-Gurion) remain in office until the remaining 2½-year term of the Knesset expires and with the proviso that the party be allowed to reconsider its position if a Liberal Front is established.

Perpetual opposition: The Harari faction is not opposed to the establishment of a Liberal Front, but it does not want to be rushed. It also feels that the first and immediate need is stable government. What neither Progressive faction has stopped to consider—and Mapai has hesitated to point it out while last minute negotiations continue—is that by merging their identity in a united front with the General Zionists, they are condemning themselves to perpetual opposition—except in the unlikely event that the new opposition to Mapai joins in a coalition government with Mapai.

They are also condemning themselves to something even more—an eventual



MAPAI: A NEW UNITED FRONT? Josephtal, Aranne and Ben-Gurion consider the liberal prospects



BEIGIN Waiting for the entrée

alliance not only with the General Zionists but also with Herut, not only in the Knesset but also in municipal councils throughout the country. While this could threaten Mapai's position in several key centres, it would also put the minority Progressive representation into the laps of their former opponents, the General Zionists and Herut, which form the central opposition in several important towns, notably Tel Aviv.

That a formal link-up between the proposed Liberal Front and Herut was not far from the minds of the General Zionists was indicated recently by General Zionist leader Joseph Serlin in an article

contributed to Haboker.

Common language: Basically, said Serlin, there were no differences in principle between the General Zionists and the Progressives and in many matters even with Herut. It would not be surprising, he went on, if the three parties were to find a common language and unity, or find a way to close co-operation.

It was not easy, Serlin conceded, to dissolve existing political organisations and lightly dismiss the traditions which each had established during its years of independent existence. Despite this, a General Zionist - Progressive union was possible and union with Herut could come as a second phase in this process of amalgamating the non-socialist forces in Israel.

How far the General Zionist - Progressive union is possible will be explored in detail by a 26-man committee to be appointed jointly by each side. The committee has the task of formulating a programme, organisational structure and financial framework for the Liberal Front. Its proposals will be submitted to a "founding congress" to be held in the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv on April

Yadin denials: A separate sub-committee has been established to devise ways and means of attracting "uncommitted or disappointed voters from Left and Right." The leaders of the embryo Liberal Front are jubilant, claiming that they have been flooded with pledges of support from unexpected sources in numbers far exceeding their initial expectations, However, they refuse to divulge one single name.

This reluctance has already given rise to a spate of rumours and both Yigal Yadin and Professor Yaacov Talmon have been forced to issue categorical denials of stories that they intend joining the new party. More likely candidates are two well-known members of Herut's "left"-wing, Dr. B. Avniel and Dr. S. Yunitchman, and two leaders of the short-lived, violently anti-Mapai, New Regime group, Eliezer Livneh and Professor Y. Leibowitz.

On the chance that a majority of Progressives would feel that a better fate awaited them if they continued their separate association with Mapai, Mapai leaders agreed at a meeting on Monday night to leave open the possibility of a reformed coalition until this weekend. The basis for renewed negotiations with the Progressives would be a government headed by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol with Ben-Gurion as Defence Minister.

Mapai opposition: This has, however, been strongly opposed within Mapai by a group which includes party secretary Almogi, party whip Akiva Govrin and Deputy Defence Minister Shimon Peres. They felt that this type of opportunist improvisation would reflect on the integrity of the party.

There was even stronger opposition to an earlier plan, devised by Eshkol himself, which provided for the establishment of a new coalition without the Progressives but including the other members of the previous government. The idea was that Eshkol would hold the Premiership for only three or four months, allowing time for tempers over the Lavon affair to cool down, when Ben-Gurion would resume the office of Premier.

Ahdut Avoda turned the proposal down within a matter of hours. Mapam followed suit. It then transpired that, although he seemed to have the tacit approval of Ben-Gurion, Eshkol had not



ROSEN No common language

sought authority from any competent party body before putting this plan forward.

Almogi's threat: A quiet simmering of unrest among those loyal to Ben-Gurion's leadership became open disapproval. This was taken a stage further with the decision to keep the door open to the Progressives. Govrin publicly stated his view that elections were the best alternative open to Mapai and party secretary Almogi stated that, although he would abide by party decisions, he would reserve his right to offer his resignation.

In truth, Mapai's twistings and turnings in an attempt to avoid elections have aroused the anger of many loyal party members and the delight of political opponents who are exploiting them to the full. This exploitation has not,

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however, helped Mapam and Ahdut Avoda to draw any closer.

There has been talk of the two parties joining in a united front. Ahdut Avoda leaders are continuing their informal talks with Mapam but remain hesitant about bringing these discussions to any concrete conclusion. So far, the two sides have only agreed on a strict "nonaggression pact" in the event of elections. But there was a similar agreement during the last election campaign and this was violated more often than it was observed.

Ahdut Avoda unwilling: Ahdut Avoda still dreams of creating a grand left-wing socialist party which would draw into its ranks disappointed members of Mapai. It seems that until they are completely convinced that this is impossible they will not make a deal with Mapam.

Mapam, on the other hand, is very keen to have a close tie-up with Ahdut Avoda and is ready to agree to almost any arrangement. As a major concession, they have suggested the formation of a joint list of candidates on a fifty-fifty basis, even though they have nine Members to Ahdut Avoda's seven. Their one condition is that Meir Yaari should head the joint list.

Mapam would like a permanent federation of the two parties but is willing, if Ahdut Avoda insists, to split up again into separate parties immediately after the elections. Mapam is using the argument that, if disgruntled Lavon support-

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ers are to be attracted from Mapai, then it would be in Ahdut Avoda's interest to agree to a merger, "because the record shows that it was Mapam which showed consistent support for Lavon's position over past years."

Warning from America: The Mizrachi, after some tortuous consultations with its conscience and between faction leaders, still seems prepared to join a small coalition with Mapai provided one other



PERES
A question of integrity

member of the former coalition can be induced to join. Mizrachi is in the uncomfortable position of having its leaders in favour of re-joining the coalition and its following against. There has also been strong pressure from the Mizrachi Organisation of America which, it is reported, threatened to withhold financial aid if the party pressed for elections at this time.

In the Knesset on Monday, Speaker Kadish Luz recited in solemn tones a letter from the President informing him that he would no longer try to entrust a Knesset Member with the formation of a new government. The House then went on to give a preliminary reading to the Elections Bill which was passed to committee by an almost unanimous vote.

The Bill neatly glosses over the question of the election date and this will presumably be set after furthering discussion between the parties. Mapam proposes the earliest date, in July, and Mapai the latest, the end of August. The President's letter revealed that, after his second round of consultations with the party leaders, he had again tried to entrust Ben-Gurion with the formation of a Cabinet on March 6. But there were no further details.

Mrs. Meir agrees: The Mapai Secretariat will meet on Friday by which time it should know the Progressive decision. If elections are definite, the Secretariat will turn itself into a campaign planning committee and formulate plans for raising an election fund. It has already been agreed that Foreign Minister Golda Meir and Knesset Member Zalman Aranne, two of Lavon's early supporters within the party councils, will head the campaign in those centres where feeling is highest over the Lavon affair.

BEN-GURION ASKS ZIONIST INITIATIVE

PUTS PLAN FOR STRONG WORLD ORGANISATION

from our own correspondent

Tel Aviv:

Taking time off from his massive preoccupations with government and party affairs, David Ben-Gurion last week demonstrated more tangibly than ever before that his concern is not only with the future of Israel but also with the future of the Zionist movement.

In an article contributed to *Davar*, Ben-Gurion made it clear that he does not want the Zionist movement to be dismantled, as his critics have alleged. On the contrary, he envisages a structurally changed Zionist organisation more strongly based than today, one capable of assuming not only specifically "Zionist" duties and obligations but also more generally Jewish responsibilities.

He related his comments on Zionism to the American scene, but made it plain that he was also considering the worldwide Jewish position. Looking across this broad plain, he examined the changes that had taken place in the Zionist structure since Yiddish-speaking emigrants to the west had given way to their children and grandchildren, who spoke exclusively the language of their countries of birth.

Assimilation on the march: The American Jew of today, he observed, looked, spoke and acted no differently from any other American citizen. On the other hand, the American Jew made no attempt to hide his Jewishness and was not discriminated against because of it.

Despite this fact, however, assimilation was making gigantic strides in the United States, and, apart from the orthodox minority, Judaism was losing all positive content there. Nevertheless, continued Ben-Gurion, there was still a powerful Zionist sentiment among American Jewry, especially the older generation.

Future lies with youth: But it was with

the youth that the future lay, declared Ben-Gurion, Zionism meant nothing at all to the young Jews of America today. Neither the classics of Zionist writing nor the personal memories of American Zionists struck the slightest echo in the hearts of American youngsters.

Even though the Z.O.A. and other organisations helped Israel enormously, and even though this help was extended by all sections of American Jewry, Zionism did not attract the younger generation. Even Hadassah, the only organisation to carry out important work in Israel independently, had produced only one leader who had emigrated to Israel—Henrietta Szold.

The problem of Diaspora Jewry was not to make it "more and more Zionist in its consciousness, its organisation and its operations," as Moshe Sharett, one of the two Presidents of the 25th Congress, put it, but how to make Diaspora Jewry more and more Jewish in their consciousness, their unity, their education and their public life.

This could be achieved by setting up a world Jewish organisation which would have as its central tasks the achievement of Hebrew education for the young generation, and the strengthening of personal ties with Israel. The "Zionist" organisation would be performing a historic service if it were to form the nucleus of a world Jewish organisation.

All Jews shared in building-up: The Zionist movement that was based on Europe's six million Jews who perished had the will, aptitude and the need to achieve the Zionist vision of the immigration of millions of people into Israel.

All the generations of Jewry, from the time of the Maccabees and before, could claim a share in the building up of the State, but the real builders were those who had immigrated into the country. Only immigrants would continue to build, even though they would need the help of the whole people.

Would all the financial aid and all the encouragement of Diaspora Jewry have been of any effect, asked Ben-Gurion, if people had not come and settled in the country? But the aid and encouragement were the possession of the Jewish people today, and it would be a serious if not a fateful mistake to consider only the needs of the State and not those of Diaspora Jewry as well.

Look to the future: Only a world Jewish organisation could strengthen Jews' ties with Israel and increase their Jewish consciousness. The Jewish people must not live in the past but look to the future. The quality of Jewish youth in the Diaspora would not be improved by the magic use of old concepts, but by



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NEW LEADERSHIP AT UNIVERSITY

ITALIAN-BORN PROFESSORS WIN THE DAY

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem:

The Hebrew University has a new Rector. He is 52-year-old, Florence-born Professor Giulio Racah, a physicist of world-wide fame who has been on the staff of the University since 1939.

He succeeds Professor Benjamin Mazar, who also held the University Presidency. Under a new arrangement (or at least a reversion to a former arrangement) the Presidency will be held by a second person.

Professor Mazar has been in ill-health for sometime and health reasons were given for his resignation. But this is not all of the truth. For nearly seven months Professor Mazar had been under pressure from members of the academic staff to secure improved pay and conditions for them.

Edifice complex: But he was a prisoner of the University administration's edifice complex which, while providing magnificent new buildings with the help of foreign friends, has not been able to devote nearly enough attention to the wellbeing of its staff.

And the building programme itself has not been carried through without running the University into debt—now amounting to I£20 million plus I£2 million annually in interest payments. Although the Government has increased the amount of its financial assistance, Mazar and many of his associates felt it was time for a vigorous, new fund-raising drive overseas.

When it became clear some time ago that Mazar would not remain in office, the name of Professor Rottenstreich was canvassed as a possible successor for the Rectorship. There was a great deal of support for his appointment, but Rottenstreich himself refused to accept.

Science men choose: His refusal had nothing to do with his part in the Lavon affair. Although he headed the group of intellectuals which backed Lavon, Rottenstreich insists that he has no political plans and that his opposition to BenGurion was based on grounds of procedure and not of politics. The reason for his refusal of the Rectorship stemmed from his personal friendship with Mazar. There was, he thought, a possibility that his acceptance would be misinterpreted as implying criticism of the outgoing Rector.



RECTOR GIULIO RACAH Scientists cast the die

Another serious candidate for the post was mathematics professor Aryeh Dvoretzky, but he ruled himself out by appearing over-eager and thus alienating some of his strongest supporters. He also made a tactical mistake in intimating that he would also like the Presidency. Others who might have voted for him were put off by suggestions that he might appoint a personal friend to the pro-rectorship instead of the generally favoured candidate, Professor Roberto Bacchi (also born in Italy and in the same year as Racah).

The die was cast at an eve-of-Senate meeting when a large number of Science Faculty professors met informally at the home of their dean, Professor Ernst Alexander, and set their seal of approval on Racah, whom they summoned home from Italy.

From outside: In the Senate itself, Bacchi made a strong speech in favour of retaining the Presidency and Rectorship in the hands of one man. Although he managed to sway a number of participants, the final vote still showed a large majority in favour of separation, and Racah announced that he would recruit a President and Vice-President from outside of the University. (The Presidency was, in fact, offered this week to the Governor of the Bank of Israel, David Horowitz, but he had to turn it down on the reasonable grounds that he could not perform both tasks.)

The new Rector is married with three children. He is a member of the Israel Research Council and of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. His speciality is spectroscopy on which he has contributed papers to learned journals throughout the world.

IN THE NEWS

WHERE DOES DR. DAVIS STAND?

AN IMPORTANT LETTER from the Chief Press Information Officer of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) appears on page 19. In it, Mr. John Defrates questions the justification of our editorial criticism of his Director, Dr. John H. Davis, which was expressed in the JEWISH OBSERVER on February 24. Dr. Davis, says Mr. Defrates, said no more at the recent Geneva Conference than did the Assembly resolutions of the United Nations. We should therefore address our criticism to the U.N. and not to UNRWA and its Director. But that is not quite correct. Mr. Defrates is not altogether fair to the U.N.-or to our readers-in only quoting the first half of paragraph 11 of the 1948 resolution and omitting altogether the second half which puts an entirely different complexion on it.

This reads on from where Mr. Defrates left off (with a full stop which is not in the U.N. text), as follows:

"INSTRUCTS the Conciliation Commission to facilitate the repatriation, resettlement and economic and social rehabilitation of the refugees and the payment of compensation, and to maintain close relations with the Director of UNRWA and, through him, with the appropriate organs and agencies of the U.N."

It is precisely this second half of the paragraph which Dr. Davis disowned in his speech at Geneva* last January when he argued the full Arab case for repatriation and gave the Arab host countries a clean bill for their record in the refugee question.

We questioned the wisdom of Dr. Davis's argument, and here again, unfortunately, Mr. Defrates is somewhat arbitrary in his quoting of what we said in the editorial comment on February 24. This time he has left out the preceding sentence which sets the scene for what follows. We said:

"For the refugees are no longer an isolated phenomenon, living in a desert, waiting only for the day when they can return home. President Nasser's policy—and his latest declaration is merely one more step in this direction—has irrevocably linked this return home with war and the destruction of Israel."

* see JEWISH OBSERVER January 27, 1961.

That is why we pointed out that when the Arab leaders say "repatriation" they mean "war," and that when Dr. Davis says "repatriation" and uses the term in this context, he plays straight into the hands of the Arab propagandists. Unfortunately, therefore, Mr. Defrates's letter does nothing to clarify the situation; it only serves to increase our uneasiness.

WHO GAVE WHAT?

This is not lessened by the other two points which he seeks to make. We had referred to estimates that the U.N. had spent something like \$1,000 million on the Arab refugee problem as against less than \$30 million by the Arab host countries, in order to show how unwarranted was the Egyptian criticism of UNRWA. Now, says Mr. Defrates, this is an exaggerated estimate. The U.N. has spent less than \$350 million. We have also checked these estimates and the result is rather different from that given by Mr. Defrates UNRWA alone spent \$328 million on relief between May 1950 and June 1960. Before May 1950 and since June of last year, it spent another \$100 million. In addition, it had a capital fund of \$200 million which was originally set aside for rehabilitation, but since the Arab countries objected to this, the money was used under different headings. But let us remember the point of the argument: it was to measure the Arab contribution as compared with that of the western nations.

MISSING CONTRIBUTORS

The Soviet bloc contributed nothing and the total Arab contributions in the 12 years since 1948 was the magnificent sum of \$6 million. The United Arab Republic contributed \$4½ million, Jordan (through the British and American taxpayers) another million, and the Lebanon (which received massive American aid) \$350,000. Iraq, which during that period had an oil income of \$1,500 million, contributed nothing. Saudi Arabia which had an oil income of \$3,000 million, contributed nothing, and Kuweit with an oil income of \$4,000 million also contributed not a single dollar. Moreover, the rich Lebanese, Syrian and Egyptian contractors made considerable profits from the sale of local supplies to UNRWA which amounted to something like \$80 million during these years. And these host Governments also profited very con-



THEIR FUTURE STILL IN THE BALANCE How much has Davis helped?

siderably from the various transactions which UNRWA was compelled to make.

Lastly, Mr. Defrates tells us that the Egyptian Governor of Gaza had never voiced the criticisms which we quoted. This is rather hard to take. General Salem made his detailed statement in an interview with the official Egyptian news agency, MENA. It was then broadcast in full from Cairo.

It is not yet clear whether the U.N. Assembly will take up the discussion of the Palestine refugees at the present session, or whether it will be held over for the autumn, as Adlai Stevenson had proposed. But, either way, it would seem that the recent statements by the UNRWA Director can hardly have contributed to an early solution or to the enhancement of his status as the neutral and uncommitted head of the organisation.

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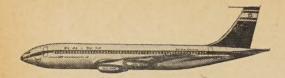
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IRAO

BAATH MAKING COME-BACK

KASSEM LEANS ON THE RUSSIANS

from our own correspondent

Baghdad:

Returning to Baghdad after a long tour through Persia and the Gulf states, I found a number of striking changes which cannot long continue without some notable repercussions.

The first is the huge decline in Kassem's popularity, due mainly to the rising tempers of the Baathists (or nationalists) and the disappointments of the communists. Popular feeling has turned most decidedly against the Russians, but the Russians are determined to hang on to Kassem and, to a very great extent, he dependent upon their continued support.

The growing confidence of the Baathists is plain, and this despite their failure in Syria. It certainly does not seem to have affected their new advance across the Iraqi scene. Their successes to date are due to two main factors: the importance of their following in the army and their ability to avoid entanglement with the security forces.

Links with Nasser: If my information is right, and I have no reason to doubt it, the leaders of the Baath today are officers with strong military backing. They are violently anti-communist and have strong links with Nasser.

Their ability to avoid getting caught can only be explained by a working relationship between themselves and the security agencies. An organisation as large as theirs could not remain hidden from Kassem for so long without connivance at a very high level.

That there was such connivance seems proved by the fact that the Baath organisation has laid down the guiding lines for the anti-communist offensive. Baghdad Military Governor Colonel Abdi has appeared as the spearhead of this offensive, but the driving force has been the Baath. How close Abdi is to the Baath is a question a lot of people would like to have answered.

Civilians not enough: If the Baathists are to make an open bid for leadership they can only do it with the support of the army, or a major part of it. No



IRAQ FOREIGN MINISTER JAWAD

An air of the cemetery

regime in Iraq has yet been able to survive without army backing.

That has been demonstrated in the case of the communists who started operations with massive civilian support. But it just was not enough. As long as you have an army, civilians can be suppressed. Nothing was more disastrous to the communists than Abdi's order for the closure of their newspaper *Ittihad ash-Shaab* and of their party organisation, in addition to the stifling of the "proletariat" in the seven southern Shiah provinces where, apart from Baghdad itself, they had their strongest popular backing.

This can also be seen, and perhaps more pointedly, from the historical point of view, as the struggle between the Sunni and Shiah, with the Sunni winning through better leadership and the ability to exploit Shi'ite weaknesses. The Baathists are essentially the politicians of the Sunni group.

Vested interest in communists: By one of those curious convolutions of Iraqi life which so baffle the outsider, the Sunnis have Kassem as an ally in their opposition to the Shi'ites, but for different reasons.

The Shi'ite religious leaders have long seen through Kassem's personal notions of greatness and have, for some insurance of their own future, strengthened their existing ties with the tribal sheikhs. In breaking the hold of the sheikhs in the rural areas, Kassem has thus found himself compelled to also break the political influence of the Shi'ites.

The danger, as far as he is concerned, comes mainly from the younger generation, from the sons and daughters of many of the Shi'ite *ulema*. They have established a vested interest in the workings of

the communist party, seeing in it almost their sole hope of establishing an effective opposition to the government, a nucleus around which they can build their own political shell and from inside which they can seek hegemony for political Shi'ism as against pan-Arabism, the Baathists and the Sunnis,

Air of the cemetery: The blows dealt at the seven southern Shi'ite provinces by al Abdi and the entrenchment of the army in these difficult regions are bound to have serious repercussions in due course. Ever since the Jews left, Shi'ites have been taking over many of the commercial undertakings and businesses left behind by the emigrants. They have also monopolised the concerns left behind by Indian traders and British businessmen.

They are thus in a position to help or hinder national commercial policies throughout a large part of the south. How they feel about the present regime is simply gauged by a walk through any commercial centre in the south—the first to close their shutters are the Shi'ites. From dawn to dusk they sit behind bolted doors in their homes, out of the way.

Nothing can be more disastrous to confidence. The evenings in some of the southern towns have an air of the cemetery about them—rather like some of the districts of Baghdad.

KURDS MAKING THEIR MARK

One element that cannot be overlooked is the Kurds. They are no longer an undirected minority not quite knowing what they want and still less how to go about getting it. In the past year they have gained a new and obvious confidence. They have established themselves to the extent that many now talk openly of an Iraqi-Kurdi Republic—that is to say, they now join their name with Iraq in joint title in order to establish at least a titular right to a share in the Republic.

The further you penetrate into Kurdish territories, the more pronounced does this Kurdism become. They are now using their own language in the official administration of their part of the country. Kurdish literature written in Latin characters can be found in the remotest villages, most of it edited by Russians. The language is being taught by young Kurds under the supervision of elders who have spent some time receiving pedagogic instruction in the Soviet Union.

Sulimaniya is 99 per cent Kurdish and you hear no other language in the streets of that city. This, in fact, is not contrary to Kassem's wishes. He has encouraged the use of dialects and other languages

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The Kurdism of the Kurdish lands is now such that Kassem does not even try to impose Arab administrators on them, and even the army units (quite different to his practice in the south) are drawn from the local populace. At the same time, he cannot be unaware of the growing determination of the Kurds to secure their autonomy.

China sometimes nearer: Is he really helpless to stop their march to independence? Why can he not tackle the Kurds as he is tackling the Shi'ites? The answer lies in the co-operation between Kurdish nationalist leaders and the Russians. It is a relationship in which he dare not interfere.

People in Baghdad know little of what is going on in the Kurdish part of the country. Sulimaniya, the "capital" of the determined Kurds, is as far away from Baghdad in the news sense as is China. Indeed, within certain Baghdadi circles, China is much nearer.

With the restrictions on movement and the very strict censorship which remains in force, despite official suggestions to the contrary, Baghdadis know nothing of what is going on in any other part of the country—except by way of rumour, and rumours there are in plenty.

Missions to London: Someone who has come into prominence in recent months is General Daghistani. Although of the old regime, the amount of respect still felt for him, especially in army circles, is tremendous. Not only does he receive special treatment, but he is also one of Kassem's most important advisers and has paid secret visits to London on Kassem's behalf.

With the army under strong internal pressure from the Baathists, it is also worth noting that the hold of the communists in the Air Force has at last been broken, with its leaders apparently pushed underground. This has still further emphasised Kassem's inability to create a united and loyal army. Instead, he has succeeded in thoroughly breaking it up into bits and pieces. Some pro-communist, others pro-Nasser and with only an uncertain element, pro-Kassem.

And there has been no let-up in the anti-communist offensive in other areas of national life. Arrests are going on all the time, even though Kassem is openly supported by the communists and makes



KASSEM ENTERTAINS What's next on the menu?

pretence that he likes them. While pro-Soviet Colonel Mahdawi no longer has anything important to do (his People's Court has not met in many months), he and Kassem are almost inseparable buddies.

Anti-Russian talk: The Russian position is a curious one. They have seen all the small-fry leaders in the Communist Party potted off one by one by the military; they have seen all their literary organisations, printing presses and distribution apparatus broken apart; their once well-organised syndicates and youth organisations have been blown to pieces; Iraqi students have been withdrawn from Russia and sent instead to Britain and the U.S.

Two years of closer Iraq association with the Russian way of life have done the Russians a lot of harm. But they refuse to concede defeat. Kassem is sticking to them, if no one else is—he has to, they remain the only ones able and willing to give him anything.

Gloomy omens: The Lebanese, the most reliable weathervane of Middle Eastern developments, are trying to get their money out of Iraq and collect payment on debts due. They are also most anxious about securing an alternative to Iraq for their meat supplies. Until 1958, the Iraqis were a reliable source of supply. Since then, supplies have almost ceased and the recent dry weather which killed thousands of sheep and cattle holds no promise of an improvement.

Iraq's grain harvest has also disappeared into thin air. Until 1958, it was a prime exporter. Today it is dependent on outside supplies.



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NO "NATIONAL HOME" IN LEBANON

JUMBLATT BRINGS IN THE RUSSIANS

from a special correspondent

Beirut:

A lot of official time and energy is being expended in keeping the "dynamite plot" against Prime Minister Saeb Salem in the news headlines. So far, eleven men have been arrested and further arrests are promised.

Attempts to manufacture a major internal political issue out of the "plot" have gone rather awry, however, with the revelation that the supposed leader of the plotters, Darwish Baidon, is the known head of a major smuggling gang which has brought narcotics and arms into the country from outside.

This seems to suggest that Baidon and his associates—all of them Moslems—were acting as agents for someone else and not as direct principals. There are some among Lebanon's less gullible citizens who have wondered aloud whether the "plot" was not, in fact, engineered by Salem himself.

Arrest warning: It was talk like this which brought an official statement on the arrests of the eleven suspects. "The Government publishes facts concerning official investigations merely in order to inform the public of the truth," the statement declared, "and to counter any rumours which might cause popular restlessness,

"It warns the public against tendentious rumours. The Government will arrest any perpetrators of rumours calculated to disturb the peace or do harm to the national integrity."

"National integrity" has become a very popular phrase, not least with Kamil Jumblatt, leader of the pro-Nasser Socialist Progressive Party and Minister of Education in the uneasy coalition Cabinet

Tit for tat? Jumblatt came back from his Damascus meeting with Nasser more imbued with Arab nationalist fervour than ever. One of his first acts was to warn those who thought they could turn the Lebanon into a "Christian national home," that their plans—inspired by the imperialists—"are not feasible."

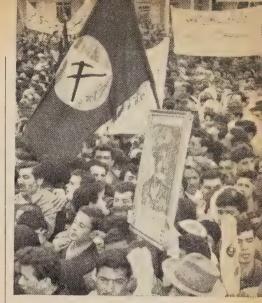
"Imperialists" and "imperialism" featured considerably in Jumblatt's press conference pronouncements and served as the hors d'oeuvre to his surprise revelation that his Ministry was seeking a Russian loan. But he refused to go into detail.

There is no evidence that any such approach to the Soviet Union has been authorised by the Cabinet, but this may well have been Jumblatt's way of hitting back at his colleagues' decision to approve a visit by ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet to Lebanese waters in August. Jumblatt's protest that this was a "political propaganda" move by the U.S. was rejected by the Cabinet.

Amazing patience: Ministers probably had more practical considerations in mind—fuelling and supplying of Sixth Fleet vessels normally brings in the Lebanese Government something in the region of \$1½ million, plus the benefits to Lebanese business firms from the shopping sprees of American servicemen.

Christian leaders continue to show amazing patience in the face of Moslem insult and provocation—such as Jumblatt's references to "reactionary elements, backed by an army of foreign stooges, using their influence to promote sectarian dissension."

But they will soon have to face a direct challenge in the form of a move by Jumblatt and other Moslem leaders to have their political groups and newspapers declared illegal on the grounds that they are "harming the national interest." For the moment, both sides are engaged in solidifying their ranks, an unhopeful development for those who still hope that the crisis will blow over.



LEBANESE FOR NASSER But who is for Lebanon?

SAUDI BANKS IN TROUBLE

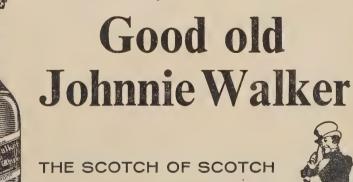
CAIRO CASHES IN ON SMUGGLING RING

A Royal Decree issued in Riadh has ordered the transfer of accounts with the Saudi National Bank to the Bank of Riadh. An accompanying statement from the Ministry of Finance and National Economy charged gross mismanagement of the National Bank by its board of directors and a number of leading officials.

At the same time, the Ministry denounced rumour-mongers who were spreading "misleading reports" to the effect that documentary credits from the



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| Blackcurrant Jam ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, | | Danhaum Ion | | | | | | | ~-== | | | |
| Apricot Jam "" "" Nut Oil 1 pint Bottles Orange Marmalade "" "" Nut Oil 1 pint Bottles SOAPS Pure Honey (Clear) "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" Liquid Squeeze Bottles Pure Honey (Clear) "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" | | Dlask-uwant Iom | | | distribution of the co. | | *************************************** | | | *************************************** | | |
| Orange Marmalade ,, ,, , Ginger Marmalade ,, ,, , Pure Honey (Thick) ,, ,, , Pure Honey (Clear) ,, ,, , Damson Jam ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, | - | Aminet Inn | | | | | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | | | | | |
| Ginger Marmalade ,, ,, ,, Pure Honey (Thick) ,, ,, Pure Honey (Clear) ,, ,, Damson Jam ,, ,, Gooseberry Jam ,, ,, SPICES Ginger (Ground) 1 oz. Drums Mixed Spice (Ground) ,, ,, Cinnamon (Ground) ,, ,, White Pepper (Ground) ,, ,, SUNDRIES Potato Crisps 4d. Pkts. Farina (Potato Flour) 8 oz. Pkts SOAPS "Frum" Liquid Squeeze Bottles "Frum" Cleanser Sprinkler Top Drums "Frum" Soap Powder Cartons "Frum" Soap Filled Pads 5-Pad size "Frum" Soap Filled Pads 12-Pad size "Frum" Soap Filled Pads 12-Pad size Memorial Lights Glasses Memorial Lights (Refills) White Candles (W) SS12 1 lb. size Cartons White Candles (W) SS12 1 lb. size Cartons White Candles (S) S16 ,, ,, ,, White Candles (S) S16 ,, ,, ,, "Brytlite" Triangle Candles (6 Candles) | | Ourse Manualada | | | | | 66 45 34 | | | | | |
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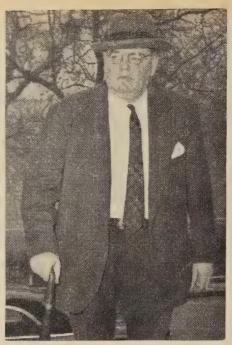
Bank of Riadh had not been accepted abroad for the past year. It expressed the hope that, in reporting financial matters, "the press will be careful to preserve its freedom within the scope of discipline, and will abstain from working for purposes which are not in the public interest."

Behind these public statements lies a chain of fraud and illegal activities involving several of the highest families in Saudi Arabia. Official action has managed to submerge most of the detail under a wave of financial decrees intended to secure a "positive solution" of the National Bank's problems. But this censorship has not extended to Cairo,

A "rich Jew": In the Egyptian capital on Friday, it was officially announced that the Anti-Money Smuggling Bureau of the Ministry of the Interior (one of the government's busiest departments) had discovered a large-scale money smuggling ring in the Cairo branch of the Saudi National Bank. The Public Prosecutor for Financial Affairs had ordered the arrest of the bank manager and deputy manager and the seizure of \$250,000 in cash.

The manager, Sherif el-Jaabary, is a Saudi subject of Jordanian origin. The deputy manager, Aly Abdul Aziz el-Maktum, is the son of wealthy Saudi





U.S. ENVOY TO ISRAEL, BARBOUR New face on the old frontiers

parents and is the principal accused.

A tip-off given to the authorities some time ago indicated that the Bank undertook the smuggling of money for people wishing to obtain foreign currency abroad. A police officer posing, in the words of an official statement, as "a rich Jew" approached the deputy manager who put him in touch with another Bank official.

To credit: Negotiations were then opened by the Bank with a rich Kuwaiti, Yussef Rashid Burselly, who had asked the management to find him a local buyer for a sum of \$250,000 which he had lodged in an American bank in Beirut. It was agreed that the Saudi National Bank should pay 75 piastres to the dollar as against the official exchange rate of 34.9 piastres.

Last week, in an apartment in a Cairo suburb, the deputy manager of the National Bank handed over the American bank's draft for \$250,000 to the "rich Jew" who gave him the appropriate number of Egyptian pounds in return. As the deal was being closed, the police swooped and carried off the manager. They also arrested the rich Kuwaiti—but released him after allowing themselves sufficient time to cash the American bank draft in Beirut.

The investigations are said to be still continuing, but the Egyptian Treasury has already written up to its credit the sum of \$250,000—plus a promptly recovered allocation of 187,000 Egyptian pounds issued for the purposes of the Anti-Smuggling Bureau to a "rich Jew."

U.S.A.

"EXILE GOVERNMENT" PROCLAIMED

FORMER PALESTINIANS' CHALLENGE TO LEAGUE LEADERS

from our own correspondent

New York:

What appears at first sight to be the only independent body of Arab refugees to plead the cause of Palestinians appeared on the scene last week. Styling itself the "Provisional Palestine Arab Free Government in Exile," the body addressed a memorandum to President of the General Assembly of the United Nations in which it claimed the right to be regarded as the legitimate government of that part of Palestine allotted to the Arabs in the 1947 partition resolution.

The memorandum was mailed from an address in Florida, the base of many another "government in exile." This intervention might have been dismissed as unserious were it not for some of the names appened to the document:

Tawfiq S. Touqan, President; Mohammed Ali Daggak, Minister of Public Relations and Information: Dr. Zaki Amin Tamim, Minister of Public Health: Dr. Mohammed Hussein Dashan, Minister of Social Affairs and Refugees: Jamal el Din Assadi, Minister of Finance; Ibrahim A. Shami, Minister of Defence; Hafez Abdul Hadi Haj-Eid, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Amin Elias Taweel, Minister of Justice; Mohammed Abdel-Qader Rannir, Minister of Commerce and Economy, Nassauh A. Abdul Rahim, Minister of Communications: Abdel S. Abdul Rahman Akki, Minister of Interior; and Jamil H. Aref Said, Minister of State and Resettlement.

Ex-Mufti ruled out: Declaring themselves genuine Palestinian refugees, the signatories claimed that their "government" had the sole right to defend refugee interests. They stated that, until this moment, no opportunity whatever had been given to Palestine refugees to put their case directly to the United Nations, "due to the fact that the Arab states were unable to reach a reasonable solution in finding a group to represent" the refugees.

The memorandum pointed out that, over the past thirteen years, three groups had claimed to be working on behalf of the refugees. One was the Arab Higher Committee headed by the ex-Mufti of

Jerusalem who no longer had any power "due to his previous personal conduct as an agent for the Nazi Government of Germany and to his suspect position as a pro-communist agent in the Middle East area."

The second was the "Palestinian Arab Refugees Office in new York," run by Dr. I. Tannous for the Iraqi Government. The memorandum quoted an official Iraqi statement for the information that this office was to be closed down and reconstituted as an Iraqi Office from May 1.

"Only true government": The third was the body headed by the signatories to the memorandum calling itself the "Provisional Palestine Arab Free Government." They now asked, said the document, for recognition as the only true government representing refugee interests; for acceptance by the U.N. as full members with the right to appoint a permanent delegate; and for an opportunity to be represented at the current session in order to negotiate and facilitate the "real demands" of the Arab refugees.

In a moderate statement of aims which must have raised the temperature to boiling point in the offices of the various Arab delegations, the "provisional government" said it sought "peaceful resolution of the Palestine problem on the basis of the spiritual rights of human beings and the Bill of Rights of the United Nations."

It declared itself ready to co-operate with any commission or group appointed by the U.N. to study and resolve the Palestine problem and indicated that it would not be averse to negotiations with Israel under the aegis of the U.N.

Right to self-determination: On the territorial question, the "provisional government" called on the U.N. to secure the peaceful transfer of the refugee-populated west bank of the Jordan and the Gaza strip to the "real owners of the country, the Palestine Nation, by instructing the U.N. Emergency Forces to control the security and delivery of the above-mentioned two parts to our provisional government."

Dismissing claims by Jordan and the United Arab Republic to represent the interests of Arab refugees living in areas controlled by them, the memorandum pointed out that the Declaration of Human Rights included the right of a nation to its own self-determination. Jordan and the U.A.R., it declared, "are representing their own nation and not the Palestine Arab nation."

They added a warning, again couched in moderate language, that "undesirable influences and pressures" were being exerted "upon our refugees" which might result in dividing the people along lines already experienced in the Congo.

What it means: The memorandum, copies of which were also received by a number of Jewish leaders, was presented with none of the public relations gloss which is so usual an attribute of documents of this kind. U.N. observers approached it cautiously, but with immense interest. If it does nothing else, it will have revealed the crack in the supposedly solid front presented by the Arab League on the refugee issue. It may yet turn out to represent very much more.

AMERICAN JEWRY'S MASSIVE ACHIEVEMENT

\$2,000 MILLION—AND MORE TO COME

Figures to stagger the mind and a picture of communal endeavour unequalled in any western society feature in a report issued recently by the American Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.*

In the fifteen years since the war, central Jewish community organisations in the United States have raised more than \$2,000 million—with more than half being remitted to Israel. Thousands of millions more have been raised by independent agencies for local and overseas welfare needs.

Averaging out the amount subscribed to central organisations during the decade of the 'fifties, American Jews found \$118 million annually for charitable causes. At the same time, they dug deep into their pockets to assist local and independent campaigns. In 1959, for example, some 79 independent agencies raised \$55.5 million, at least one-third of it in New York City.

Women in the lead: American Jewish philanthropic agencies had something in the region of \$82 million for use overseas in 1958 and about \$96.5 million in 1959. Israel got about 80 per cent of these sums. In addition, American Jews bought something in the region of \$40 million worth of Israel Bonds in each of these years.

Outside of the United Jewish Appeal, the largest and most successful organisation raising funds for Israel is Hadassah, the women Zionists' body, which secured \$7.5 million in 1959 through membership activities. The building and special fund drives of the Hebrew University and Technion brought in \$4 million; Labour Israel and Pioneer Women raised \$2.7 million and a similar amount was collected by the Jewish National Fund in its campaign for "traditional income."

However, not every donor is as good as his word. On a pledge basis, United Jewish Appeal income was \$73 million in 1959 and \$68 million in 1958—on a cash basis 1959 income was \$68.4 million and 1958 income \$55.8 million.

Religion and recreation: At home, the five major Jewish community relations agencies — American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Jewish War Veterans, Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Labour Committee—shared \$7\frac{1}{2}\$ million with the National Community Relations Advisory Council. Six health organisations (five hospitals and one-medi-

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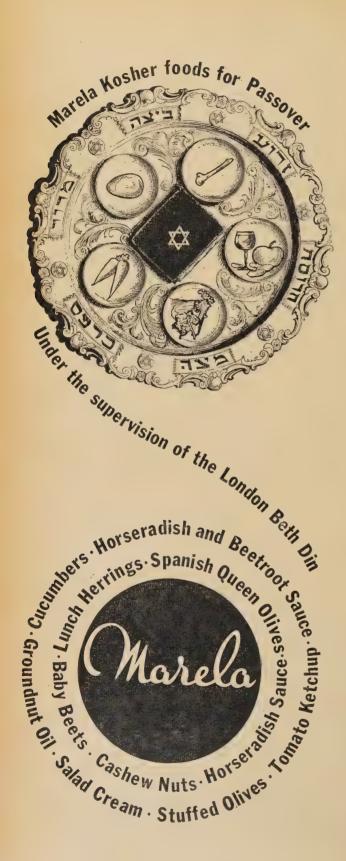
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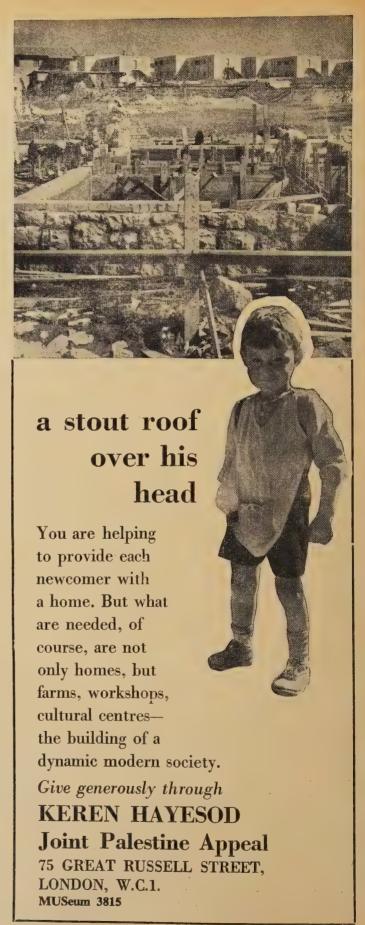
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cal school) had income of \$10.4 million in 1959.

Millions more were found for educational, cultural and welfare services. Twenty-eight national religious organisations received \$24.4 million in 1959. Local Jewish communities spent \$22.5 million on recreational centres—of which there are now 340 and with a membership of over 608,000.

And, in 1961, say the fund-raisers, American Jewry will do even better.

"PEACE CORPS" CALL TO JEWISH YOUTH

The suggestion from President Kennedy for the establishment of a Peace Corps has brought a response from Max Bressler, the President of the Zionist Organisation of America. The Chicagoan, at the helm of the Z.O.A. in perilous seas, grabbed at the idea and appealed to young American Jews to enlist in the Peace Corps, giving as their preference service in the under-developed areas of Israel, such as the Negev.

Bressler, addressing a meeting of the Z.O.A. Executive Committee, dwelt briefly on recent suggestions for the dissolution of the Zionist movement, referring to their author as "the Prinz of Doom."

Long before any members of the Peace Corps reach Israel, that country will feel the impact of the lively personality of a rather older American: 86-year-old poet Robert Frost.

"American colony": "I will give two lectures and sit around with the students," Mr. Frost said before he left, "I'll simply rumple their brains fondly." Why had he chosen Israel, he was asked? And his answer is liable to rebound:

"I am going to make a beeline for where the human race has come from for 2,000 years. And it has come in many ways—language, the alphabet from that end of the Mediterranean, the Bible from which so much of our own literature is made... right there, that was the beginning of it all... I look on Israel as an American colony. They all speak English there. They have so much of the American people's spirit. They have many, many things in common with us—more than anybody else."

In attempting to prove that he can keep up with the American pace, one Israeli had to take to bed. Abba Eban, Bond campaigner in the United States, was admitted to a Baltimore hospital in mid-week suffering from exhaustion due to his heavy, U.S.-type of schedule following the Mapai crisis, the Government crisis and the teachers' crisis—Israeli-type schedule—at home.

LETTERS

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sir,—The date of this year's Israel Independence Day (5th Iyar) being a Friday, the Anniversary is being celebrated on Thursday (4th Iyar) 20th April, and the Communal Service to celebrate Israel Independence Day will be held at the Sha'are Shomayim (Clapton) Synagogue, 47 Lea Bridge Road, London, E.5 at 4 p.m. on Wednesday 19th April. The Chief Rabbi and the Haham, together with Rabbi H. Rashbass, will conduct the Service. The Service will be read by the Rev. S. Milch and the Rev. J. Klein. His Excellency the Israel Ambassador will be present.

Those wishing to attend should apply to the Secretary, Israel Independence Day Committee, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1.

Michael Wallach Secretary

A REBUKE FROM U.N.R.W.A.

Sir,—You have been kind enough to make reference from time to time to the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the columns of your publication.

Most recently, however, in your issue of February 24, you have expressed criticism of Dr. John H. Davis, Director of UNRWA, for his alleged views on the subject of repatriation of the Palestine refugees.

Specifically, you wrote: "Therefore, if Dr. Davis and those whom he can persuade, blindly go on pressing for repatriation in the way that they are doing, then they are playing straight into the hands of those who say 'repatriation' but mean 'war'."

Permit me to point out that on 11 December 1948 the General Assembly of the United Nations resolved, inter alia, "that the (Palestine) refugees wishing to return to their homes and live in peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and that compensation should be paid for loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good by the Governments or authorities responsible." (Resolution 194 (III), Paragraph 11).

The General Assembly has maintained this same view on repatriation throughout the years since 1948 and in Resolution 1456 (XIV) of 9 December 1959 it noted "with deep regret" that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in General Assembly Resolution 194 (III), has not been effected.

These General Assembly Resolutions are directives to UNRWA and, if your publication disagrees with them in any way, its remarks should more properly be directed

towards the General Assembly rather than to UNRWA or to its Director.

Also in your issue of 24 February, you assert in a footnote that the United Nations has contributed funds in excess of \$1000 million for the relief of the Palestine Arab refugees since 1949. It would be more correct to estimate this sum at less than \$350 million.

In the same issue you quote a derogatory statement about UNRWA reportedly made by General Ahmed Salem. You may care to know that General Salem, who retired as Administrative Governor of Gaza at the end of February, has categorically denied having made this particular statement.

John H. Defrates,
Chief, Public Information Office
UNESCO Building,

Beirut, Lebanon.

[See comment in "In The News," p. 9]

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ZIONISM

NEXT Z.F. CHAIRMAN STILL UNDECIDED

THREE CANDIDATES MAY CONTEST POST

from the Jewish Affairs reporter

With only another week to go before the new type sixtieth annual conference of the British Zionist Federation opens in London, the future chairmanship remained unsettled. Three candidates were left after Richtiger, the Doctors Fox and Miller, and the Cohens had withdrawn.

Jacob Halevy remained as the choice of what might be called the "establishment"; Donald Silk as the maturing voice of the younger generation, and Harold Miller as the representative of Poale Zion.

By midweek, I understood, there was a move afoot which would have led to the withdrawal of Silk and Miller in favour of the unopposed return of Halevy. But it was not yet certain.

For the rest, it looks as if there will be some energetic controversy in the new-style agenda,

The Mapam assault on the JEWISH OBSERVER has been met with an amend-

ment from the Glasgow Zionist Organisation which commends the paper for the part it has played in creating an informed Jewish and non-Jewish public on Middle Eastern affairs. The Officers have decided to support this stand against the Mapam attack—although there were one or two doubters who questioned the wisdom of encouraging so unpredictable a publication.

EUROPEAN ZIONISTS REJECT MERGER

GOLDMANN'S SUGGESTION
_TURNED DOWN

from our Paris correspondent

The weekend conference of the European and North African Executive of the Confederation of General Zionists has led to a widening of the gap between the European sections of the Confederation and the Progressive Party in Israel.

Encouraged by Sir Barnett Janner, Topiol, Sagall, Halevy and Bakstansky, the conference made clear that it viewed with profound misgivings the merger movement by the Progressive Party in Israel. It refused to welcome it or even to send a message of encouragement. The majority was convinced that this was more likely a stepping stone to a right-wing concentration than the launching of

a genuinely liberal front.

It was made clear, though, that this was no more than an opinion, for the conference reiterated strongly its policy of complete non-identification with the political parties in Israel.

No rotation: For the same reason the conference rejected, I gather, a proposal which had been made by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, the President of the World Zionist Organisation. He advised the Confederation, which is headed by Rose Halprin and Israel Goldstein, to merge with the Confederation group which is headed by Emanuel Neumann and which identified itself with the General Zionists in Israel.

The two confederations, Dr. Goldmann had proposed, should merge—but only in the Diaspora. The Israeli parties should remain outside but be represented by "observers". I gather that after an energetic debate the British contingent carried the day, and the Goldmann formula was turned down.

The conference was also adamant about the new Executive which the Zionist General Council will have to elect in Jerusalem next month, It insisted on Hadassah leader Rose Halprin becoming the chairman of the New York Executive, without any rotation of the office as Dr. Goldmann had suggested. They also wanted Dr. Israel Goldstein to take over the Keren Hayesod.



ISRAELI ENTERPRISE

A Jewish Observer Panorama

GOVERNMENT CLOSES DOWN A FIRM

ONE EXPERIMENT THAT DID NOT BEAR FRUIT

from Yohanan Ramati

Jerusalem:

There were tens of thousands of dunams of abandoned orchards in Israel when National Orchards Ltd. was established as a Government corporation at the end of 1951.

During the next ten years, the corporation succeeded in redeeming 50,800 (12,700 acres) of the 65,000 dunams (16,250 acres) entrusted to it, giving work to thousands of new immigrants in the process. Its investments in rehabilitation totalled some I£2.3 million. Just over 17,000 dunams of orchards, which were now producing fruit, were duly taken from the company and transferred to kibbutzim or moshavim.

The company was not fully compensated for its investments in these orchards. It had had to employ inexperienced labour, and the prospects of success had varied from grove to grove, depending on the degree of damage caused by lack of attention over extended periods and by war. In the circumstances, it was hardly surprising that losses were a regular annual occurrence.

Almonds in the Negev: The situation was not improved by the fact that additional tasks had been imposed on the corporation. It had planted almond trees in the Negev, apricots on the frontier with Jordan east of Lydda and Ramleh, citrus on the sands of Caesarea, vineyards and figs near Safed.

These activities were designed as much to provide employment at sensitive points as to yield economic returns. The area of new orchards and vineyards planted was 4,800 dunams, at a cost of I£2.4 million.

By the end of 1959, the situation of the company was as follows: it owned real estate to the assessed value of some

I£3 million, but its operations during the year had resulted in a loss of I£427,000. Together with the accumulated loss from former years totalling I£1,868,000, this made a grand total of I£2,295,000.

Loss in 1959: The profit and loss ac-

in existence, and last July its lands began to be distributed between the agricultural settlements and the new Land Authority set up jointly by the Government and the Jewish National Fund.

This was clearly a correct decision, since even the employment situation (which had been one of the main factors encouraging the Government to continue to subsidise the company despite its perennnial losses) was improving rapidly, and unemployed labourers were becoming scarce in most parts of the country.

Comparisons unfair: It would probably be unreasonable to blame the company itself for its failure. It had been forced to operate a vast number of orchards scat-



UNUSUAL ANGLE ON JERUSALEM

Outside the city, the orchards blossom—if not the profits

count of the company showed that it had received some I£747,000 for the fruit it had sold during 1959, but that expenditure in connection with the very same fruit (including marketing but excluding administrative overheads) reached I£931,000. Other income totalled I£98,000, other expenditure I£341,000.

By 1960, it had become clear that there was no reason to maintain the company

tered all over the country, a fact which undoubtedly increased its overheads, and also, most of the orchards transferred to the company had been so neglected that there was no prospect of big fruit crops (and reasonable income) for some years.

At the same time, some highly unfavourable comparisons have been made between National Orchards Ltd. and a private fruit growing company managed by Mr. Tur-Sinai, which has been making a good profit on its investments in new orchards and has considerably improved the aspect of certain parts of the Jerusalem Corridor.

Yet such comparisons are not really fair, for all the accuracy of the facts cited in them. If Tur-Sinai, or for that matter anyone else (including the kibbutzim), had been compelled to undertake the specific tasks imposed on National Orchards Ltd., it is doubtful if they would have made a better job of them.

| UNION | | 1.3 | 8.3 |
|---------------|-----------------|---------|-------|
| BANK | DOLLAR BONDS | 92.1 | 94.7 |
| SECUREX | C.O.L. BONDS | 104.6 | 105.4 |
| 1859-100 | SHARES | 350.4 | 357.8 |
| Me willellell | For Investments | consult | |
| UNIO | N BA | N | K |

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CABLES:
UNIONBANK

ADDRESS:
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TEL-AVIV, ISRAEL

BOOKS

ISRAELIS AND THE "CHEAP ORIENTALS"

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT YEARBOOK 5721 (1960/61), 540 pp.; (Government Printer, Jerusalem; Obtainable from L. Simmonds, 16 Fleet Street, London E.C.4) 21s.

Do you read yearbooks, or do they frighten you? This is one of the best and most amusing books on Israel that I have read for a long time—provided you know where to look. I recommend the statistics of the Ministry of Finance. There I discovered that, judging by the number of tickets sold, every adult Israeli went to pictures at least forty times a year. Last year, just short of forty million people visited the cinema, six million more than in the previous year, and they paid an average of over three shillings per ticket.

There are also some fascinating indications of the (alcoholic) drinking habits of the Israeli. Clearly, he is not a beer drinker. Total consumption averages out at about one pint every two weeks for every adult. Less "special beer" but almost double "extra special beer" was consumed. Nearly thirty per cent more wine was drunk by the Israelis, an indication of the improving quality of the local product—and of its extraordinary cheapness. A good local vin ordinaire can be bought in the shop for less than three shillings a bottle. More brandy, much more champagne, but less Arak was drunk than the year before.

Interesting trends are also reported from the smokers' front. Less than four per cent of the smokers choose Virginia; a quarter of all smokers take "filter oriental" (they consumed 31 million packets); a little less than a quarter take "medium-priced oriental" and almost half of all smokers go for "cheap oriental." They bought 55 million packets, fifteen million more than in 1959. Only one in twenty prefers—or can afford—"expensive oriental."

But there is also food for thought for the more serious. Some years ago, I counted 84 departments as coming under the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence. Since then there appears to have been a further accretion of authority. Mr. Ben-Gurion was last year responsible for no fewer than 120 departments (each with a staff and a director). Seventy of these came under the Prime Minister's Office and fifty under the Ministry of Defence.

They include the Civil Service Commission, Arab Affairs, the Israel Broadcasting Service, the Central Office of Information, the Government Tourist Corporation, Scientific Research and Development and any number of inter-departmental committees.

It says a lot for the competence of the Government administration that the machine goes on working normally while the head of so many departments is away, or preoccupied with governmental business. It also suggests that, as President Kennedy has discovered, there comes a point when one has to call a halt to departmental proliferation, and to streamline the machine at the top as an example to others further down. Browsing through this wonderfully indiscreet yearbook, the reader will discover more about Israel than from much more sophisticated and more literary efforts. And not only about

Israel. Mr. Ben-Gurion contributes a long essay on the Afro-Asians.

J.K.

HEBREW BOOKS FOR NON-ISRAELIS

JUDGING BY THE LIST of members of Israel's Book Publishers' Association, publishing in Israel is a sizeable industry. Israelis spend some I£30 million a year on books, not all of them in Hebrew, and the country's publishers now want to increase their sales of Hebrew books abroad. They have just sent me a copy of the first issue of the Israel Book Publishers' Quarterly, which aims at telling Jews in the Diaspora "what the Hebrew book market has to offer." It is an interesting and quite lively publication, and deserves to have the success its sponsors hope for it

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WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS - BRITISH SECTION

JEWISH FORUM

Tuesday, 21st March, 1961 at 8 p.m. Stern Hall, 33 Seymour Place, W.1

DANGER IN OUR GENERATION?

Speakers:

PROFESSOR ALAN BULLOCK, Master of St. Catherine's College
JOHN CONNELL, Journalist and Broadcaster

JOHN J. MENDELSON, M.P., Member of Parliament for Penistone Dr. S. J. ROTH,

Executive Secretary, European Division, World Jewish Congress

In the Chair:

Dr. E. J. COHN,

Associate Member, World Jewish Congress, World Executive

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

DEMIN

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JEWISH AGENCY

SUMMER SCHEMES AND SEMINARS

YOUTH DEPT. 217 Tottenham Ct. Rd., W.1. (LAN 4661)

Summer Institute, Israel, 9th July to 1st Sept. Patwa Work Programme, Israel, 9th July to 1st Sept.

Youth Scheme, Israel, (ages 16 to 18) 29th July to 6th Sept.

TORAH DEPT, 345 Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1, (TER 9855/7) Teachers' Seminar in Israel, 24th July to 28th

Grammar School Ulpan, Israel, 24th July to 28th August (ages 14-17)

European Seminar, Italy, (details to be

announced)

FDUCATION DEPT.

77 Gt. Russell Street, W.C.1. (MUS 3815)

Spring Hebrew Seminar, 11th to 17th April

Week-end Hebrew Seminar, 12th to 14th May

European Hebrew Seminar, England, (details

to be announced)

ORGANISATION DEPT. details from Zionist Organisations (MUS 3815, TER 9855, MUS 4702) Seminar in Israel, August

ALIYAH DEPT. 217 Tottenham Ct. Rd., W.1. (LAN 4661) Ulpanim in Israel (Hebrew courses 1961)

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MADE DIRECT TO THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNED.

BIRTH

SON Simeon Paul שמעון שואל was born on Friday, March 3rd, to Frances (née Lewis) and Maurice Osen. A brother to Ruth, of 9 Laurel Close, Barkingside, Essex,

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 19
GOLDERS GREN ZIONIST SOCIETY. Joseph Freedman Hall, Golders Green Synagogue, Dunstan Road, N.W.11. Filmshow "The Juggler" (U) and Israel newsreels, 8 p.m.

ANGLO-ISRAEL BANK SUCCESS OF FIRST YEAR'S OPERATIONS ISSUE OF FURTHER CAPITAL CONTEMPLATED

The First Annual General Meeting of the Anglo-Israel Bank Ltd., was held on March 16 at the Registered Offices of the Company, Bow Bells House, Bread Street, Cheapside, E.C.4.

Sir Henry J. d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, D.S.O.,

M.P., presided.

The following is a statement by the Chairman which had been circulated with the Report and Accounts and was taken as read:

"On 1st December 1959 the Anglo-Israel Bank took over the business of the London Office of the Bank Leumi le-Israel and started trading as a British Company, thus in some measure restoring the position which had existed between 1902 and 1950 in the days of the Anglo-Palestine Bank, and in achieving the satisfactory results here shown, the Bank benefited materially from the legacy of goodwill inherited from its parents.

"As the first month of operation made no material contribution to the Bank's profit the figures represent in effect the result of the first completed year of activity. Although transactions with Israel have naturally played a large part in the turn-over, there has also been much remunerative activity in other banking fields and it is a matter of satisfaction to the Board that both domestic business inside the United Kingdom and international commercial business have alike shown a healthy growth. Moreover there are good prospects of further sound expansion on both sides in 1961.

DIRECTORATE

"The Board would wish to place on record their sense of loss in the tragic deaths of two of their colleagues, Air-Commodore Benson, their first Chairman, and Mr. George Hinwood, both of whom made an

invaluable contribution to the Bank's establishment and whom they now most sadly miss. They welcome the accession to the Board of Mr. E. J. Hill, whose unrivalled experience will be of the utmost value to

"During the year the Bank moved from its old office in Gracechurch Street to new and more convenient premises in Bread Street, Cheapside, where there is room for

further expansion.

"Finally, the Board would wish to pay tribute to their General Manager, the Managers and Staff for the zeal, devotion and team spirit which have enabled the Bank to make such a useful start to its career.

The Report and Accounts were unanimously adopted and the dividend of 7½ per cent. (less tax), as recommended,

approved.

The retiring Directors, Dr. Y. Foerder, Mr. E. J. Hill, Professor R. F. Kahn, C.B.E. and Mr. L. Istorik, were re-elected.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDITIONAL REMARKS

Addressing the meeting the Chairman said: It will be seen from the Balance Sheet that only half of the authorised capital has as yet been issued and the issue of further ordinary capital to the present Ordinary Shareholders is now under active consideration. If the issue is made it would be on the same basis as the original placing.

The expansion of business which I mentioned in my printed statement has been maintained in the first two months of this

The Shareholders will be pleased to learn that Mr. F. R. Norton, who is so well known in the City, has agreed to accept co-option to the Board.



Tuesday, March 21

THEODOR HERZL SOCIETY, "Zion House," 57 Eton Avenue, N.W.3, Brains Trust, Panel: Miss B. J. Barwell, Dr. H. N. Feld, Harold Miller, David Glass. Question Master: Dr. F. E. Falk,

Thursday, March 23

HENDON ZIONIST SOCIETY. Synagogue Hall, Hendon Synagogue, Raleigh Close, N.W.4. Annual General Meeting, "The Zionist Congress" by Mr. Janus Cohen, Presidential address by Dr. E. Baron. 8.15 p.m.

ST. JOHNS WOOD & MAIDA VALE Z.S. New Community Centre, 37/41 Grove End Road, N.W.8. Filmshow of latest Israeli films. 8.15 p.m.

Sunday, March 26

SIXTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ZIONIST FEDERATION—POALE ZION SESSION. New Community Centre, St. John's Wood Synagogue, 37-41 Grove End Road, N.W.8. Speaker: Dr. S. Levenberg, Elections in Israel and the Crisis in Zionism, In the Chair; Mr. Harold Miller, 10.15 a.m.

JPA-JNF NEWS

Prepared by JPA/JNF Public Relations Department, Furnival House, 14 High Holborn, W.C.I. Chancery 5986/7

CUTS IN AGENCY BUDGET

WHERE THE SOUEEZE WILL HURT MOST

The new budget of the Jewish Agency. which takes effect from April, will, as already announced, be reduced by nearly seven per cent. It will be I£184 millions as contrasting with I£197 millions last year.

Why was this necessary? Principally because of decreased income from special sources in America and the need to repay loans to the tune of I£50 millions this year. On the other hand, there is expectation of floating new loans totalling I£29 millions to offset part of this sum. It will thus be seen that the decrease in the budget and the repayment of loans will cause a shortfall of over I£34 millions.

Paying debts: This situation arises from the need in former years to remove Jews from their countries of domicile, irrespective of expense. But the time has now come for the repayment of the debts incurred.

The cuts in the budget, which were worked out at six Jewish Agency executive meetings, come, regrettably, in the areas of housing and settlement. But there will be no financial restrictions at all on any commitments incurred as a result of the current immigration programme. There will be six million pounds less to spend this year on homes, and 12 million pounds less for settlement.

Such a situation is bound to have grave repercussions on the absorption programme, besides bringing into peril the promise made to those dwelling in ma'abarot that these low-grade homes would be evacuated this year.

Last-minute moves: The executive is still making last-minute efforts to repair the deficiency and avoid a new severe crisis among the settlers in 480 new villages who are awaiting 11,000 head of cattle and 60,000 sheep, together with equipment and farm buildings. It has decided to despatch Moshe Sharett and Dov Joseph to America for talks and to publicise the situation among American Jewry. In addition, the Chairman of the K. H. presidium, Eliahu Dobkin, has addressed a special appeal to the J.P.A. administrative committee in London, to ask what steps can be taken in this country for a heightening of the current effort.

BEAUTY APPEALS (TO THE FRUIT TRADE)



Aliza Gur and other Israel products.

Highlight of this year's annual dinner of the Fruit and Vegetable Trade J.P.A. committee was the presence as guest of honour of Aliza Gur, who was "Miss Israel" in the American "Miss Universe" competition. (Apparently, the winner of the British trophy triumphs over a smaller parish; she is elected "Miss World.")

Aliza Gur's beauty turned out to be more than skin deep. She proved a forceful and vivid speaker, and described her travels throughout America and Europe as an ambassadress to Diaspora Jewry. In what became a voyage of discovery she learned a great deal about the fund-raising movement.

"Please keep up your efforts," she asked the Fruit Trade committee. "There is so much we still have to do before Israel can stand on her own feet."

Chairman J. C. da Costa, who received the guests with Mrs. da Costa and Miss Gur, stated that this committee had contributed over £130,000 for Israel since 1948, and he recalled the various stages of the state's development which had necessitated this voluntary taxation: the gathering-in of a million people, the expansion of welfare services, the creation of a proper agricultural economy, the introduction of industry.

Now, Mr. da Costa went on, many committee members had grown old in service. They needed revitalising, and he invited the younger members of the trade to come forward and join in their work.

Laurie Marks proposed toasts, but this successful combination of creative activity for Israel and relaxation for a hardworking group of business people was primarily due to Mesdames E. Saphir, J. Saphir, G. Garber, S. Garber, L. Marks, M. Kutner, H. Bennett, all of them wives of committee members.

The sum of £3,800 was raised.

BELFAST RESOLVE

Gershon Avner drew a picture last week of the sense of resentment experienced by an unskilled Oriental worker in Israel when he saw the better standard of living earned by a workmate who had come with his skill from Eastern Europe. The head of the North American Division of the Foreign Ministry was demonstrating how such a situation could be a fertile breeding-ground for the social agitator and exacerbated the difficulties facing Israel's Minister of Finance in sharing out the national cake to meet all the priorities. Mr. Eban wanted more money for technical education, but this could only be granted at the expense of the housing programme or perhaps General Weizmann's demand for more up-to-date aviation equipment.

Mr. Avner was speaking at the launching of the J.P.A. in Northern Ireland, which took place at the Jewish Institute in Belfast under the chairmanship of P. Gorfunkle, R.M. A sum of £3,000 was contributed.

The appeal was made by S. W. Gold -"there just is no speech after Avner" says Mr. Gold-and a Resolution was proposed by R. Black and seconded by H. L. Coppel to the effect that their community, conscious of the increasing burdens which Israel must shoulder in the coming year, would raise more for J.P.A. than at any previous time. A. Selig, treasurer, also spoke, and there was a vote of thanks by joint-chairman A. Daly.

Manchester: So as to open up the districts of Manchester to more intensive campaigning, Mr. Avner proceeded from Belfast to Prestwich. He addressed a meeting there at the home of the Mayor, Cllr. M. Baker, J.P., and as a result important donations were secured from new contributors. M. Bernstein, Manchester's addressed vice-chairman, also meeting.

WEDNESDAY: CAMPAIGN TOTAL OVER £1 MILLION "OPEN-DOOR" POLICY MUST JUSTIFY ITS MEANING



Guest speaker Avner with Hampstead officers and hosts.

"We must erase from the Israel landscape those places that do not deserve the name of homes," declared Gershon Avner to a Hampstead meeting which took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Cohn and was presided over by Dr. I. Levy, O.B.E.

Mr. Avner emphasised the need to understand the Jewish character in solving the problems of the State. Israel and her people were ambitious, and therefore one of the most important needs was human rehabilitation, so as to dispel social and economic distinctions. Also, in this respect, the establishment of new towns, founded through the results of appeals, paved the way for private investors, thus developing the state in a

constructive and workable way. Israel had an "open door" policy, and this must be fulfilled, not only with regard to limitless immigration, but also in efficient integration.

In summarising, Dr. Levy stated that Mr. Avner's address reminded him of a mosaic where all the little pieces were beginning to take shape. An amount of £10,000 was raised.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gilbert, who were leaving the next day for Israel to become temporary residents, were presented with an avenue of trees by W. M. Behr, on behalf of the committee, in appreciation of the hard work and enthusiasm put into J.P.A. over the years.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD SCOOP

Under the leadership of joint vicechairmen Louis Goodman and Cyril Jacobs, St. John's Wood J.N.F. Commission hope to make a significant contribution to their target for the development of Nachlat Shekhory in Biranit by their presentation of "Exodus" at the Astoria Cinema on Tuesday, May 16, 1961.

Recognised as one of the top fundraising committees in the United Kingdom, St. John's Wood succeeds in raising substantial sums for the Fund with the minimum outlay. The group intends to make this Nachlah a worthy memorial to their late colleague and leader, Samuel Shekhory, by scooping this long-awaited film about the struggle for Israel.

Commissions desiring tickets for "Exodus" should apply for them without delay to M. Clements, 64 George Street, W.1, Welbeck 3463 and Primrose 8831, and all committee members. Mrs. Sally Ann Jacobson is the honorary secretary.

ATTENTION, TOTTENHAM RESIDENTS!

The J.N.F. Film Show and reception will be held at the Lord Morrison Hall, Chesnut Grove, Tottenham High Road, N.17, this Sunday, March 19 at 4 p.m. and *not* as previously announced.

THE BARMITZVAH SPIRIT

Stimulated by world Jewry's feeling of "simcha" on the occasion of Israel's thirteenth anniversary, various J.N.F. Commissions in London have increased their usual fund-raising quotas at their annual dinners. Stamford Hill, for example, obtained the record result of £2,400 at this community's get-together at the Empire Rooms, and it was proud to have Mr. and Mrs. Rosser Chinn among its guests.

A fine brochure and well-stocked tombola stall added to the evening's attractions, which had Mr. and Mrs. J. Rosenberg as the hosts. Chairman B. Gothelf presided, and toasts were proposed by B. Levy and M. Davis.

Kingsbury: The consumption of "viennas and beigals" against a background of dancing proved a most profitable formula for Kingsbury workers, whose Ball took place at Wembley Town Hall.

Thanks are due to Louis Domb and his young and go-ahead committee.

For Forest: Alf Morris, known to us all as functions chairman of the Finchley Commission but in 'private' life the head of a leading London hairdressing school, has taken on a personal canvass of colleagues in this trade for support of the Barmitzvah Forest. He has so far brought in £156 in tree inscriptions for this tribute by Anglo-Jewry, and hopes to report more results very soon.

Undoubtedly this is where the Barmitzvah Forest campaign scores most heavily: an individual approach within a special group. Mr. Morris's example should commend itself to us all.

West Ham event: More gifts of trees, in units of 13, were made at a West Ham reception which had Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Birn as guests of honour. Mr. Birn is of course national chairman of the Barmitzvah Forest tribute in addition to being a joint treasurer of the J.N.F. The Chair was taken by M. Weinberg, Warden of West Ham district synagogue.

Mr. Birn's address, which culminated in an appeal for strong representation by West Ham in the tribute, took in the whole purpose of afforestation as an economic activity of immense long-term importance to Israel.

The proceedings took place in the local Youth Synagogue, and the other speakers were Charles Molen and the Rev. G. Schneider. Films of Israel were shown.

JPA-JNF NEWS

KENWOOD FILM GALA

Hampstead Heath ramblers, perceiving a motor-cade one evening last month along the Spaniards Road, must have wondered what the procession was in aid of. The answer is simple: it was in aid of the J.N.F.

For this was the annual excursion of the Kenwood and Highgate Village Commission to the West End for their gala function, in fact "Pepe" at the Columbia Theatre. It raised £1,500 for land development in Israel.

Joint chairmen H. C. Newgas and Mrs. E. Woodman wish us to express their thanks to their committee, which included Mrs. A. Phillips, Mrs. A. Weil, Dr. L. J. Samuels, M.C., Mrs. R. J. Friedmann and B. Stanton, while brochure sales were once again in the capable hands of Miss E. Pappworth.

LEEDS BAZAAR **PLANS**

Well-stocked furniture and textile stalls will be there for bargain-hunters when the Leeds Blue and White Bazaar takes place in June.

Local furniture men J. Solk, A. Reuben and H. N. Myers are in charge of a drive for goods in their trade, and R. Sumrie, M. Berwin, B. Zimmerman and J. Bird in textiles.

Hear about aliya: The Jubilee Fellowship heard a talk recently by Arieh Chapman of the provincial office of the Jewish Agency, when the prospects for skilled immigrants from the West were described. The meeting took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Vann.

CHILDREN MEET -AND EAT

Tu b'Shvat saw many children's events in London, organised with the assistance of the Youth department. Among them were large functions at Ealing Town Hall, conducted by Hans Stern, Hackney Town Hall, conducted by S. Harris; and at Edgware. Local J.N.F. Commissions assisted in the provision of fruit and in general organisation.

The Bible Quiz has got away to a flying start. Nearly a hundred schools are participating. Further rounds are due to take place in April. The international finals will be held at the Rudolf Steiner Hall on Sunday, May 28.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD J.N.F. COMMISSION **ON TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1961**

EXODUS at the Astoria Cinema, Charing Cross Road

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THIS WEEK'S BEST BOXES

THIS WEEK'S

E. LONDON: Mr. Tendler, E. and G. (Brick Lane), co 44 Earlham Grove, E.7, £9.16.2. Mrs. Motzney, c6 The Mount, Mount Pleasant Lane, E.5, £5.14.6. Mr. J. Gorin, 118 Ashfield Street, E.1, £5.13.4. Mr. and Mrs. S. Rosenberg, 92 Claremont Road, E.7, £5.5.9. Mrs. L. Klang, 9 Rutland Road, E.1, £4.5.9. Mrs. Finkleman, 94 Wrens Park House, Warwick Grove, E.5, £4.0.0. Mr. C. Stern, 78 Woodgrange Road, E.7, £3.10.10. Messrs, Julius and Co., 82 Cavell Street, E.1, £3.9.5. Mr. Brown, 89 Earlham Grove, Forest Gate, E.7, £3.6.0. Mrs. Cohen, 144 Jubilee Street, E.1, £2.13.9. Mr. and Mrs. H. Angel, 44 Earlham Grove, Forest Gate, E.7, £2.11.13. Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, 13 Knightland Road, E.5, £2.8.0. Mr. Gorin, 68 Cleveleys Road, E.5, £2.6.0. Dr. Paul, 322 Romford Road, E.9, £2.0.0. Mrs. Bergman, 68 Windson Road, E.7, £2.0.0. Mrs. H. Kaufman, 18 Moresby Road, E.7, £2.0.0. Mrs. H. Kaufman, 18 Moresby Road, E.5, £2.0.0. Mrs. Bloom, 118 Jubilee Street, E.1, £2.0.0. Nrs. Sarah Greenwood, c/o 150

Road, E.S. £2.0.0. Mr. Bloom, 118 Jubilee Street, E.1, £2.0.0.

N. LONDON: Mrs. Sarah Greenwood, c/o 150 Cranley Gardens, N.10, £6.12.3. Mr. A. Sher, 325 Green Lanes, N.4, £5.10.0. Mr. Sydney Cohen, Flat 9, Crescent Court, Crescent Road, N.8, £3.2.6. Mrs. Rose Bines, 311 Green Lanes, N.4, £2.10.6. Mr. M. H. Morris, 21 Barrington Court, Colney Hatch Lane, N.10, £2.9.6. Mr. Fox, 129 Tottenham Road, N.1, £2.5.1. Mr. List, 229 Alexandra Park Road, N.22, £2.4.0. Mr. M. Zawadski, 1 Balfour Road, N.22, £2.4.0. Mrs. M. Zawadski, 1 Balfour Road, N.5, £2.2.6. N.W. LONDON: Mrs. Tobias, 90 Ellesmere Road, N.W.10, £5.13.9. Mr. Sheldon, 14 Clifford Way, N.W.10, £5.5.5. Miss S. Wright, 37 Gresham Gardens, N.W.10, £5.5.5. Miss S. Wright, 37 Gresham Gardens, N.W.11, £4.0.0. Mr. E. Dorsey, 86 Park Avenue North, N.W.10, £3.15.6. Mr. H. V. Benzimra, 74 Brondesbury Park, N.W.2, £3.3.7. Mr. A. Bramson, 41 Helena Road, N.W.10, £2.6.4. Mrs. D. Ellis, 46 Watford Way, Hendon Central, N.W.4, £2.4.3. Mr. Martin, 187 Watford Way, Hendon Central, N.W.4, £2.4.3. Mr. And Mrs. H. L. Cohen, 43 The Vale, N.W.11, £2.2.0. Mr. and Mrs. N. Bloom, 53 Dunstan Road, N.W.11, £2.2.0.

N.W.11, £2.2.0, Mr. and Mrs. N. Bloom, 53 Dunstan Road, N.W.11, £2.0.0.

S.W. LONDON: Mrs. Lewis, 12 Hoadley Road, S.W.16, £3.11.6. Mr. and Mrs. D. Jacobs, Lewis Flats, Walham Green, S.W.6, £2.10.0. Mrs. Tober, 14 Wellington Square, S.W.3, £2.10.0. Mr. Mr. M. A. Kutchinsky, 60 Brompton Road, S.W.3, £2.0.0.

W. LONDON: Mr. A. Isaac, 80 George Street, W.1, £4.18.3. Mr. J. Offenbach, £2/48 Gt. Portland Street, W.1, £4.00, Mr. and Mrs. Ruben, Block 1, 1a Portman Mansions, Chiltern Street, W.1, £3.11.2. Mrs. Middlebrook, 177 Lauderdale Mansions, Maida Vale, W.9, £3.10.0. Mrs. I. Wolfson, 74 Portland Place, W.1, £3.0.0. Mr. and Mrs. J. Lottenberg, 43 Weymouth Street, W.1, £2.15.9. Mrs. E. Hill, 6 Princess Court, Bryanston Place, W.1, £2.10.3. Dr. Tuttnauer, Flat K, 82 Portland Place, W.1, £2.3.4. Jews College, 11 Montague Place, W.1, £2.2.0. Mrs. Seckman, 91 Gt. Portland Street, W.1, £2.2.0. Mrs. Seckman, 91 Gt. Portland Street, W.1, £2.2.0. Mrs. Davis, 1g Portman Mansions, Chiltern Street, W.1, £2.0.0. Mrs. F. Harris, 6 Woodstock House, Marylebone High Street, W.1, £2.0.0. Mr. J. Silver, 4 Weymouth Court, Weymouth Street, W.1, £2.0.0. Mr. Mr. Winner, 39 Oakwood Court, Kensington, W.14, £2.0.0. Mr. B. Kaye, 104 Montague Mansions, W.1, £2.0.0.

£2.0.0.

WEMBLEY: Misses H. and I. Rothschild, 88 Empire Court, £3.0.0. Mr. E. Naschauer, 55 Danes Court, North End Road, £2.9.6. Mr. Ernst Schlesinger, 4 Grand Avenue, £2.8.4. Mr. Peter Burnstone, 7 The Mount, £2.8.2. Mr. J. Collier, 28 Oakington Avenue, £2.2.0. Mr. B. Kristeller, 76 Empire Court, £2.2.0. Mr. Henry Harris, 17 Forty Lane, £2.2.0. Mrs. Barwell, 22 Beechcroft Gardens, £2.0.0. Mrs. G. Fabritz, 69 Clarendon Gardens, £2.0.0. Mrs. G. Fabritz, 69 Clarendon Gardens, £2.0.0. Mrs. S. Goldring, 20 Kings Court, Forty Lane, £2.0.0.

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HOVE: Mr. and Mrs. S. Bloomenberg, 81 Goldstone Villas, £7.15.6.

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OXFORD: D. D. Kemp, 4 Hayward Road, £2.2.0. ST. ALBANS: Mr. L. Larholt, 17 Cunningham Hill Road, £19.2.0. Mr. H. Brookes, 22 Grosvenor Road, £2.10.0.

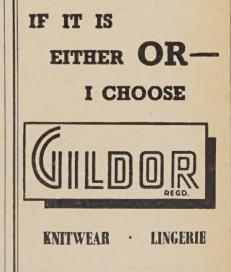
SHEFFIELD: Mr. H. Mann, 15 Greystones Close,

Hill Road, £19.2.0. Mr. H. Brookes, 22 Grosvenor Road, £2.10.0.

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22.0.0.

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